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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,293	11/12/2001	Daniel H. Walker	ITT-485-A	5056
7590	12/17/2003		EXAMINER	
Andrew R. Basile Young & Basile, P.C. Suite 624 3001 West Big Beaver Road Troy, MI 48084			FIGUEROA, FELIX O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/010,293		<b>Applicant(s)</b> WALKER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Felix O. Figueroa		<b>Art Unit</b> 2833	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 October 2003.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-13,15,16,19-28 and 30-38 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,7,10,11,13,15,16,19-28,30,31 and 33-38 is/are rejected.

7) ☒ Claim(s) 5,6,8,9 and 12 is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:  
         1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
         2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
         3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
     \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  
     a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

**Attachment(s)**

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>20031031</u> .	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

Claims 1, 4, 10-13, 15, 16, 19, 22, 25, 26, 28 and 30 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1 appears to be missing some text or a comma between lines 2 and 3. In line 10, "an open" should be --the open--; and "a bore" should be --the bore--.

In claims 4 line 3, "is" should be --being--.

In claim 4 lines 3-4, "the male endform" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 10 line 3, "the bore" lacks antecedent basis. In line 4, "the arm" should be --an arm--. Claim 10 makes unclear whether "the annular ring" and "the arm" are part of the "means for passage" (disclosed in claim 1) or whether they are a separate element.

In claim 11 line 3, "is" should be --being--. In line 3-4, "an open end" should be --the open end--. In line 4, "the male endform" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 12 line 4, "an end" should be --the end--. In lines 4-5, "the male endform" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 13 line 3, "the through bore" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 15 line 9, "the arm" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 16 lines 3-4, "the improvement" lacks antecedent basis. In line 6, after connect "a" should be deleted. In line 9, "the quick connector housing bore" lacks antecedent basis. In line 12, "the bore" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 19 line 3, "is" should be --being--.

In claim 22, line 4, "the arm" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 25 makes unclear whether "the arm" and "means for passage" (disclosed in claim 16) are the same or a separate element.

In claim 26 line 3, "is" should be --being--. In line 4, "an end" should be --the end--.

In claim 28 line 4, "the through bore" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 30 and 37 lines 3 of each, "is" should be --being--.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 15 and 16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 15 and 16, the word "means" is presented in an attempt to use a "means" clause to recite a claim element as a means for performing a specified function. However, since no function is specified by the word(s) preceding or succeeding "means," it is impossible to determine the equivalents of the element, as required by 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph. See *Ex parte Klumb*, 159 USPQ 694 (Bd. App. 1967).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 19, 22, 24-26, 28, 30, 33 and 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Marshall (US 3,891,290).

Marshall discloses a fluid quick connector comprising: an electrically conductive connector housing (10); an endform (4) having a bore extending from one end; and an electrically conductive contact member (W) mounted in the housing and contacting the male endform to electrically connect the male endform and the quick connector housing, the contact member including: a first portion (40) mounted in the quick connector housing bore in contact with the quick connector housing; and means (46) extending from the first portion for passage through an open end of a bore in the endform in into contact with an inner surface of the male endform (col.3 lines 39-43).

Regarding claim 4, Marshall discloses the means being an arm having a bent end (shown in Fig.3) extending into the endform.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 5, 6, 8, 9 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 20, 21, 23, 27, 31, 31, 34 and 38 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 15 and 16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

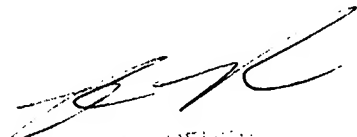
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Felix O. Figueroa whose telephone number is (703) 308-0097. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

ffr



FELIX O. FIGUEROA  
EXAMINER